

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed August 22, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 1-37 were previously pending in the application. Claims 2-8, 15-17, 19, 23-25, 29, 30, and 37 have been amended. No new claims have been added. As a result, claims 1-37 are pending for examination with claim 37 being independent. The application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Objections to the Specification

The Office Action objects to the specification for including reference numerals 102, 104, and 106 that are not included in the drawings. Applicants respectfully disagree. Replacement Drawings, sent May 11, 2004, include an amended Figure 16 which includes reference numerals 102, 104, and 106. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C § 112

The Office Action rejects claims 23-27 and 37 under 35 U.S.C § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Specifically, the Office Action has stated that the term "the sensor" does not clearly specify if a reference is made to the "electromagnetic field sensor" or the "material state sensor." Claims 2-8, 15-17, 19, 23-25, 29, 30, and 37 have been amended to change the term "the sensor" to "the electromagnetic sensor."

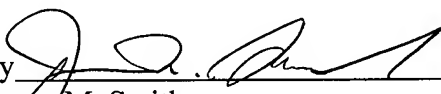
Furthermore, the Office Action has stated that limitation of "the material state sensor using a non-electromagnetic sensing method," of claim 37, is vague and indefinite as well as new subject matter. In order to expedite prosecution, the above mentioned limitation has been deleted from claim 37. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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